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Tuesday, July 12, 2011

CONTACT: MARA LEE

(202) 225-7163

Congresswoman Matsui Speaks Out Against Cuts to Medicare and Social Security That Would Hurt American Women

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-5) joined Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA-8) for a press conference highlighting the detrimental effects that cuts to Medicare and Social Security benefits would have on American women.

Congresswoman Matsui is the co-chair of the [Congressional Task Force on Seniors](#) , and has been an [outspoken opponent](#) [o](#)

[of](#)

[proposals to cut entitlement programs](#)

[proposals like those supported by House Republicans](#)

, especially

[proposals like those supported by House Republicans](#)

that would cut these programs in order to offset the cost of extending tax loopholes for large corporations – including those that continue to ship jobs overseas – and Big Oil.

Rep. Matsui's remarks from today's event, as prepared for delivery, are below:

“There are over 47 million Medicare beneficiaries across America, and more than half of them are women. Women usually live longer, make less money over the course of their lives, and have higher rates of chronic conditions than men. Almost half live with three or more chronic conditions at a time – meaning women are, on average, more sick, less wealthy, and more in need of chronic medical care than their male counterparts.

“Cutting Medicare benefits would hurt all of our seniors – but women seniors specifically would see their standard of living affected. A cut in Medicare benefits would reduce a women’s ability to pay for ever costlier basic necessities, such as groceries, gas, and medical care.

“These are our friends, our neighbors, our sisters, and mothers, and grandmothers – who we could be leaving with the choice between paying for medical care, or paying for things like food and rent.

“So I want to make clear, to my colleagues here, to the nearly 50,000 women on Medicare in and around my home district of Sacramento, and the nearly 25 million across our country: I will keep fighting to ensure that your benefits are not cut.

“And we will keep fighting to ensure that you continue to receive the benefits that you were promised. We will keep fighting to ensure that you are not left behind. And we will keep fighting to ensure that we, as Members of Congress, work to strengthen Medicare – not cut it!”

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